Women inmates languishing in jails

3475. SHRI DATTA MEGHE :

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of women inmates including foreign women national languishing in Indian Jails at present;

(b) whether the prolonged stay of women in Indian Jails is due to slow trials of women by Courts in the country; and

(c) If so, the steps being taken for speedy trials of women inmates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI) : (a) At the end of 2000 there were 9089 women inmates including foreign women nationals in Indian Jails.

(b) Slow trial is one of the major causes of prolonged stay of women inmates in Jails.

(c) The Central Government have sanctioned a scheme to set up 1,734 Fast Track Courts for expeditious disposal of long pending cases and other cases involving undertrials on priority. 1,007 Fast Track Courts have been notified till 3rd February, 2003 out of which 990 have become functional. On the administrative side, the Chief Justice of India has written to Chief Justices of all High Courts suggesting that every Chief Metropolitan Magistrate and Chief Judicial Magistrate should hold Court once or twice a month in the jail to take up cases involving petty offences.

Co-ordination between Central and State Intelligence agencies

3476. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA :

DR. AKHILESH DAS :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether at the recent Conference of Chief Ministers on internal security, a proposal was moved for more direct and institutionalised sharing of State and Central Intelligence agencies and coordination between them in view of the growing threat to internal security from various militants, terrorists, fundamentalists and secessionists elements; and

(b) if so, the precise proposals mooted and the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) and (b) One of the decisions taken at the Chief Ministers' Conference held on 8-2-2003 was that the states will strengthen and streamline special branches of their police forces and make full use of the intelligence apparatus at the Central level so as to facilitate greater coordination between the Centre and the States in the field of counter terrorism.

Setting up of Coastal Commissionerate in Maharashtra

3477. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA :

DR. AKHILESH DAS :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra has submitted a proposal to set up Coastal Commissionerate for management of its 784 Kms. coastal international border ;

(b) if so, the broad features and functions of the Commissionerate; and the Central Government aid sought therefor; and

(c) whether such Coastal Commissionerates are also proposed to be set up in the other coastal States for management of the coastal borders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No Sir.

Capacity of jails

†3478. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH :

SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the capacity of each central prison in the various states and the names of prisons out of them presently having the prisoners beyond the capacity thereof;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.